(d) The retired pilots in different airlines are required to undergo their medical check every six months prior to exercising the privileges granted under their licence. They are also required to undergo routine medical check up by the company doctor prior to moving for the flight.

(e) The Government has taken various steps to reduce the gap between demand and supply of skilled pilots. These include conditionally increasing the age-limit to 65 years for pilots for exercising the privileges of their licences for commercial transport operations under prescribed conditions, upgradation and modernisation of training infrastructure of Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi (IGRUA) to enctiance its training capacity, setting up of a world class flying training institute at Gondia, Maharashtra and assistance to flying clubs by allocating trainer aircraft through Directorate General of Civil Aviation/Aero Club of India.

Shortage of skilled pilots

719. SHRI SAMAN PATHAK:
SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:
SHRI C. PERUMAL:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps are being taken by Government to address the shortfall of skilled pilots for the fast growing aviation industry?

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has taken various steps to reduce the gap between demand and supply of skilled pilots. These include conditionally increasing the age-limit to 65 years for exercising the privileges of their licences for commercial transport operations under prescribed conditions for pilots, upgradation and modernisation of training infrastructure of Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi (IGRUA) to enhance its training capacity, setting up of world class flying training institute at Gondia, Maharasthra and assistance to flying clubs by allocating trainer aircraft through Directorate General of Civil Aviation/Aero Club of India.

(c) Does not arise.